



Sun Lakes United Methodist Church

Sun Lakes, Arizona

September 24, 2024 - Kairos Vol. 11, Issue #32



FROM THE PASTOR

The Power of Volunteerism: A Reflection on the Body of Christ

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the life of our church, I am continually amazed by the countless hours of service and dedication that so many of you give—often without recognition or fanfare. From organizing events, making phone calls, preparing meals, and welcoming new members, to praying for one another, leading studies, and even maintaining our church campus—your contributions are the heart of our shared ministry.



Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 remind us that the Church is like a body, made up of many different parts. He writes, "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it" (v. 27). Just as the body

functions through the contribution of each limb and organ, so too does our church thrive through the service of its members. Every task, large or small, is a vital part of our mission to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

Volunteering is not only an act of service; it is a spiritual practice. It is one of the ways we live out our faith, connecting with each other and the wider community. When we give of our time and talents, we follow Jesus' example of love and selflessness. We also grow deeper in our own faith as we serve alongside others, discovering new gifts and building new relationships.

To those who have given of yourselves so generously—thank you. You are a blessing, not only to this congregation but to the world around us. And if you've been wondering where your gifts might be needed, I encourage you to consider volunteering. Whether it's an hour a week or helping with a special project, your unique talents have a place here, and there is always room for more hands and hearts in the work of Christ.

Together, we are the Body of Christ, each of us with a role to play in building up the Kingdom of God. I give thanks for each of you, and for the way your service makes God's love known in our community.

See you in church!

Pastor Jen

MEMBERS



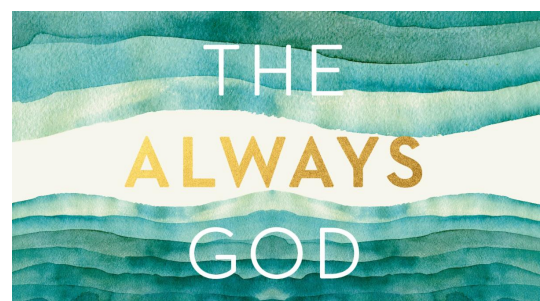
A special welcome to our newest members here at Sun Lakes UMC!

Sharon Gouthro
Cleone Sayers
Jeanne Nejman

We are so thrilled to have you in our Church Family!

SEPT. 2024 WORSHIP SERIES - THE ALWAYS GOD

There's a rising sense of uncertainty and turmoil in the world and in our lives. Loss and disappointment seem endless—whether because of an unexpected diagnosis, a desperate search for a job, or our concern for the future of those we love. During heart-crushing “Why is this happening?” moments, we can feel abandoned. Has God given up on us? Is he



no longer responding? Has he just . . . left? The Always God reminds us that we have an unchanging and faithful God who is always speaking, hearing, seeing, pursuing, and restoring.

Sept. 1: Always Speaking – Exodus 3:1-15

Sept. 8: Always Hearing – 2 Kings 19-20 (selections)

Sept. 15: Always Seeing – 1 Peter 5:6-11

Sept. 22: Always Pursuing – Luke 15

Sept. 29: Always Restoring – Jeremiah 18:1-6

CHURCH HOMECOMING



Join us for a "Homecoming Brunch" on Sunday, **October 20th** right after service in Lindsay Hall. A reservation is required, so stop to pick up your free ticket after service on Sunday, Sept. 29th, Oct. 6th and 13th. This is a catered event, so you must have a reservation.

We hope to see you there! Any questions, please contact the Church Office (480) 895-8766.

COOKIES FOR HOSPITALITY HOUR



People sure do love their cookies! We are looking for wonderful bakers who would volunteer to bake 2 - 3 dozen cookies for hospitality hour. There is a sign up sheet in Lindsay Hall on the easel past the foyer.

Please bring to the Church Office or Lindsay Hall no later than Thursdays at 3:00pm. Container Pick-Up will be on Sunday by the Kitchen.

JEWELRY DONATIONS FOR BAZAAR

The Krafters Annual Bazaar is coming up quickly and the Krafters need your help! The creative team is busy working on projects, and they are assembling items for the vintage jewelry sale and simple treasures displays.

If you have any jewelry lying around that you no longer wear, consider donating it to the Krafters to be repurposed or to be sold!

You can leave your donations in the red wagon in the Church Office Lobby.



OFFICE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



We are truly blessed by all the amazing volunteers how dedicate their time back into this Church and the congregation!

If you want to meet some really amazing people, can answer phones, and help with some office tasks, we need you! We currently have openings on:

Wednesday's: 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Thursday's: 9:00am - 12:00pm & 12:00pm - 3:00pm

Things that we will need assistance with would include answering the phones, helping anybody who comes into the office needing help or direction, and miscellaneous tasks.

If this seems to be of interest, please contact Lauren at the Church Office to set up a meeting! **(480) 895 - 8766**

SOLA (SINGLE OR LIVING ALONE)

Come and enjoy conversation and music at Palo Verde Country Club Restaurant on Thursday, **September 26th** at 4:00. We always have a great time, come and bring a friend!



Our next luncheon is scheduled for Friday, **October 11th**, 11:30 at Stone and Vine on Alma School and Queen Creek.

Sign up sheets available in Lindsay Hall or the Church Office

(480) 895-8766

Ride Sharing is available upon request!

TNT IN OCTOBER



Have you ever been curious about the various types of train cars and engines? Join us for an engaging talk with Bart Burton, a passionate train enthusiast, who will share insights into the world of trains, both present and historical. Bart's deep-rooted interest in trains began with his family's legacy in the Pullman Railway Company and has led him to become a founding member of the Arizona Railway Museum in Chandler. He has served as President of the American Association of Private Railway Owners and currently holds the position of Vice-President of Operations at the Railway Museum.

Dinner will be served at 5:00 pm with the speaker beginning at 5:30 pm.

We kindly request that attendees R.S.V.P by calling (480) 895-8766 to ensure we have enough food for everyone.

DINNER GROUPS



Mark your calendars for the Dinner Groups that will begin in October and end in November. There will be a sign up sheet in Lindsay Hall (and the Church Office) to get your name in a group!

There will be 8 people per group and the dinners will vary between eating out and in. If you are open to host at your home, please let indicate that when signing up.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeanette Fletcher (641) 777-0284 or the Church Office (480) 895-8766.

A NOTE FROM MISSIONS TEAM

Each year Lura Turner Homes hosts a summer camp at Whispering Pines Ranch near Payson.

Those residents who are able enjoy many different activities, including a big favorite--riding the horses!

Through your continued support of the ministries of this Church, your Missions Team provided three full scholarships toward this project.

The Missions Team continues to be extremely gratified by the generosity of this congregation and we are honored to serve on your behalf. Next up--Thanksgiving dinners! Not that far away!

Missions Team



HALE THEATRE



Get into the holiday spirit with Holiday Inn, the classic musical inspired by the beloved film starring Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire. Set at a charming inn that only opens on holidays, this heartwarming tale follows a singer who teams up with a talented

dancer to put on spectacular shows for each festive occasion. Filled with toe-tapping Irving Berlin tunes, dazzling dance numbers, and timeless romance, Holiday Inn is a joyous celebration of love, friendship, and the magic of the holiday season.

Tickets On Sale!

\$42 each *First Come First Serve*

Please sign up with the Church Office: (480) 895-8766 Or with Christy Johnson

Showing is on Friday, **Nov. 1st** at 4:00pm

UWF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE

Snowbirds and vacationers are coming back,

and we are ready to kick it into high gear. There is always joy in getting together again. If you are looking for a new circle of friends, some fun, and want to do missions work, study the Bible and know what Methodist women around the world are doing, come and join us! We meet the second Monday of each month from October to May. Our **October 14th** meeting will be a potluck dinner at the home of Christy Thomas at 4:00pm. (Please R.S.V.P. with the dish you will bring and to get directions. Contact Christy at: **christysunlakes@gmail.com**).
Read the book of Luke in preparation for our time together!



BLOOD DRIVE IN OCTOBER



American Red Cross is hosting another blood drive here in Lindsay Hall on Thursday, October 3rd from 8:00am - 2:30pm.

Please make an appointment at: redcrossblood.org and use Sponsor Code: SunLakesLions or call 1-800-733-2767

NAME BADGES

We are still taking orders for new name badges! They are \$10 each to cover a part of the expense.

If you'd like to order a name badge, please contact the Church Office (480) 895-8766 and we will place an order for you!



BOOKS ON DISPLAY IN OUR LIBRARY

Here are some fiction and non-fiction books for the beginning of fall:

- Peace Like a River by Leif Enger
- The Spellbinder's Gift by Og Mandino
- Heaven in my Hand by Alice Lee Humphreys

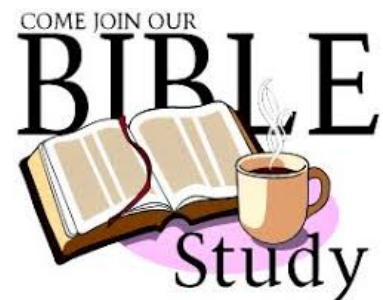


- Gifts From a Course in Miracles by Frances Vaughan, Ph.D.
- Choices, Changes by Joni Eareckson Tada
- Gratitude: A Way of Life by Louise L. Hay and Friends
- A Guide to the Religions of America Edited by Leo Rosten

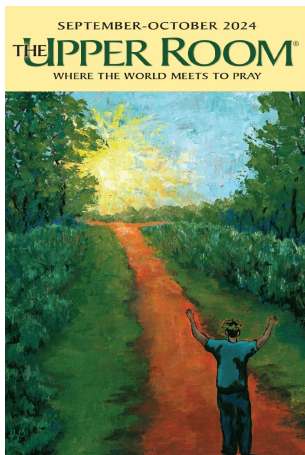
COME JOIN OUR BIBLE STUDY

Every Sunday after service, there is an "Adult Sunday School" that is hosted in Room 1 of the Education Building that starts at 10:30.

Study books are available in class. We have a great time with our teachers!



THE UPPER ROOM SEPT - OCT



The Upper Room Daily Devotional for September - October 2024 is now available in the Church Office Foyer or Lindsay Hall.

A limited amount of Large Print is available.

There are small envelopes located near the Upper Rooms for any offering. Thank you for your contributions!

ALTAR FLOWERS DONATED FOR SEPT. 22

In Memory of Robert Sanchez by His Loving Family



LOVE AND SYMPATHY

...to the family and friends of Robert (Doug) Gear who passed away Saturday, August 31st. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, **October 19th** at 11:00am in the Chapel.

...to the family and friends of Ellen Samuels who passed away Tuesday, September 10th. A memorial service will be held Friday, **October 4th** at 11:00am in the Chapel.

...to the family and friends of Sue Pennington who passed away Wednesday, September 18th. A private family memorial will be held on Thursday, September 26th.



[SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS](#)

[SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES](#)

[OCTOBER CALENDAR](#)

[NEED PRAYER?](#)

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[CIRCLE OF HONOR BRICK ORDER FORM](#)

[CALENDAR EVENT REQUEST FORM](#)

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Sun Lakes United Methodist Church

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Contact Our Staff

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